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Wola Ludu

NEW SAFETY DEVICES PROTECT WORKERS FROM INJURY

CIRCULAR SAW HAS SAFETY FEATURES -- Wola Ludu, No 19, 16 Dec 49

According to official statistics, the circular saw accounts for 85 percent of the accidents in the lumber industry, or several hundred victims annually. Lack of safety appliances and carelessness on the part of the workers cause this high accident rate.

The Model Shop for Occupational Safety and Hygiene (WB i HP) exhibits a circular saw equipped with safety features. A heavy sheet-metal hood protects the hands and eyes of the worker and a special chuck holds the boards fed into the saw. These devices eliminate 90 percent of the accidents.

Other machines in the lumber industry with high accidents rates are planing machines, band saws, and milling machines. The band saw at WB i HP has a special guard to protect the worker in case the band should break. The rilling machine is provided with a heavy wire screen as protection against a bursting carborundum wheel. Specially designed blinkers of noninflammable plastic shield the worker's eyes against hot fragments. Special lighting is used to facilitate work without leaning on the machine.

Protective clothing has also been designed for various occupations: asbestos and canvas coveralls and helmets for metallurgical workers, tasks and hoods to protect paint workers against acid and acetone fumes, and makes for workers who sandblast castings.

PROTECTIVE MASKS FOR SHIPYARD WORKERS -- Wola Ludu, No 20, 17 Dec 49

Since many paints used by the workers of the Dock and Salvage Division of the Gdynia Shipyards contain poisonous substances, there is danger from fumes if the paint is used in the airless compartments of ships.

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A new mask approved by the Efficiency Commission of the Gdynia Shipyards is being used in all closed compartments. The mask is attached to a portable oxygen tank which can be placed on deck and connected with the mask by a rubber hose. Thus a worker can paint in a closed compartment for several hours without interruption and without ill effects. A great saving will result, since, without the mask, a worker could work only 15-20 minutes and then have to rest in the open for half an hour.

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